

Tetsuya KUSANO et al.
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Filed: Herewith
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REMARKS

The subject application is a divisional, and claims the priority, of U.S. Serial No. 09/989,914, filed November 21, 2001. The subject application also claims the benefit of priority from Japanese Application Nos. 2000-358555 and 2001-355199, filed November 24, 2000 and November 24, 2001.

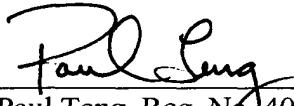
By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants have canceled claims 1-29 and added new claims 51-55. Accordingly, claims 30-55 are now pending and presented for examination in this application.

Applicants maintain that this Preliminary Amendment does not introduce new matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, Applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the telephone number provided below.

No fee, other than the \$1,446.00 application fee for the divisional application filed concurrently herewith, is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment. However, if any additional fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



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